THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY 23RD JANUARY.

THE second anniversary of the Young Men's Debating Club was held this evening at the Hindu School Theatre. The Hon'ble Mr. Scoble was in the chair. Mr. H. Beveridge C. S. delivered an excellent lecture on "Samuel Johnson."

RAO Bahadur Mahadev Govind Ranade, C. I. E., has been appointed Special Judge under the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act.

BABU Rajani Nath Roy, Comptroller-General, Bengal, has been transferred to Bombay to relieve Mr. O. Barrow, Deputy Accountant-General, who takes three months' privilege leave.

AT the Meeting of the Town Corporation held on Saturday last, Mr. John Cowie, Secretary to the Suburban Municipality, was appointed Secretary to the Calcutta Corporation, *vice* Mr. Turnbull, who retires on pension. Mr. R. Sen has been appointed Assistant Health Officer.

THE new decree of expulsion directed against the foreign Jews in Russia, which affects some 36,000 chiefly Austrians, is pressing with crushing effect upon rich and poor alike, but particularly upon the latter. All have received an intimation to wind up their affairs in the course of 1888, even the largest merchants and bankers having only received a year's grace in which to do so. As a consequence large numbers of failures are already reported, and very many more will naturally follow. The considerable banking firm of Sussmann, of Warsaw, has already begun to liquidate its affairs, and this general withdrawal of capital will not only injure those at whom the decree is aimed, but also many native Russian and foreign firms.

A WONDERFUL silver mine has been discovered in Australia. It is now a working concern, shipping silver to Europe at the rate of £400,000 worth a year, and paying a dividend of forty per cent. per annum on a nominal capital of half a million sterling.

THE following statistics for the fiscal year 1886-87, will give some idea of the enormous amount of business done by the United States Post Office. The total number of persons engaged in the postal service is 95,181; the number of post offices 55,157; and the number of miles of postal routes 373,142. The number of pieces of ordinary mail matter handled in railway postal cars was 5,834,690,875; the number of registered packages so handled, 15,752,569; and the number of through and inner registered sacks handled in railway postal cars 950,613. The number of money orders issued was 16,155,134, representing an amount of 138,267,000 dols. The total expenditure of the Post Office department was 52,391,678 dols., and the total receipts 48,837,610 dols., representing as a loss of 3,554,068 dols. The cost for transportation of domestic mails was 28,031,106 dols., and of foreign mails 435,054 dols. The telegraphs in the United States are worked entirely by private companies.

IN Prussia a large number of ladies have petitioned the Minister of Education against appointing male instead of female teachers for the Upper Classes in Girls' Schools. The petitioners take the ground that male teachers do not understand the inner life of girls, who are thus educated in a purely external, inconsistent, and superficial manner.

THERE is every likelihood of the Office of the Director-General of Railways being amalgamated with the Public Works Secretariat of the Government of India by the beginning of the new financial year.

MR. CORDERY, has definitely decided to go home on leave at the beginning of the hot weather.

AYUB KHAN is to receive a personal pension similar in amount to that given to his brother, the ex-Amir Yakub. A separate allowance will be made for the large number of Sirdars who accompany him to India.

THE fifth annual meeting of the East Bengal Association was held on Sunday last at 3-30 P. M at the City College Hall. A large number of the leading gentlemen of East Bengal in Calcutta was present. The President, Mr. M. Ghose, being unavoidably absent, Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose was voted to the chair. The report was a record of many works of public utility in which the Association had some hand in the Districts of Dacca, Faridpur, Chittagong, Jessore, and Rajshahye. The office-bearers of the next year were then elected. The chairman gave an eloquent and interesting address. With a vote of thanks, to the chair, the meeting dissolved.

TUESDAY, 24TH JANUARY.

INTELLIGENCE received at Brussels from St. Petersburg states that the report of an attempt upon the life of the Czar arose from the fact of a secret door having been discovered beneath the Imperial box in the Marie Theatre. Two sentries are, however, permanently stationed beneath the Imperial boxes at all the theatres, so that any injury to his Majesty is regarded as impossible.

Truth says that the Queen has decided not to come to London at the commencement of the session; Parliament will, therefore, be opened by commission.

THE Duke of Westminister has presented the Countess of Dufferin's Jubilee Fund for the supply of female medical aid to the women of India with a donation of £200.

THE *Madras Standard* says:—"Courage is the quality which governs the world." 'So Sir Lepel Griffin has been saying. But he must have forgotten that in government discretion is, if not the better part, yet an essential part of courage. Otherwise he would hardly have indulged in the sarcasms at the expense of the Bengalis with which this same speech of his abounds. But then his Indian days are nearly numbered, and he therefore felt himself free perhaps to throw discretion to the winds and to let off the winged barbs that will nevertheless rankle for many a day in the Bengali mind, says a home paper."

WRITING on the subject of the proposed discontinuance of the horse breeding establishment, the *Civil and Military Gazette* says:—"Instead of breaking up the Horse-breeding Department in the full career of its usefulness, we should recommend suplementing it by stud-breeding for the immediate purposes of Government. In our issue of the 13th and 29th September, we advocated stud-breeding to obtain cheap and acclimatised sires, instead of importing foreign stallions at great expense for distinct purposes; and also to obtain, what is greatly needed for purposes of Field Artillery and Transport Train, a supply of large mules, which breeders will not produce, there being no other demand for such. To this may well be added the breeding of remounts, if Government is pressed to obtain a supply of such, instead of waiting till they are plentiful in the markets as the result of horse-breeding operations But let it be recognized that these latter operations have a distinct object besides that of producing remounts, and that their result can no more be expressed in money than the results of educational effort. To abandon this object, or to endeavour to attain it by breaking up a thoroughly efficient organisation, and trusting to the spasmodic and ill-guided efforts of District Officers and Local Boards, would indeed be a retrograde and most ill-advised measure.'

A RUSSIAN student has described student-life in the dominions of the Czar in the following words:—"Watched and worried as if they were the inmates of a reformatory or a house of correction, chided and punished for every infraction of the rules, which extend to their dress, the cut of their hair, the choice of companions, the students are kept in a state of incipient rebellion, which leads to frequent outbursts of 'disoder and insubordination.'"

IN the consequence of the closing of the Russian universities, large numbers of the students are leaving the country to take up their residence in Switzerland.

IN the course of his speech at Derby, Lord Salisbury said:—'In times past, danger announced itself afar. If there was a prospect of war, there was a preliminary diplomatic trouble, which gave ample opportunity for preparation. That state of things has passed away. If the thunderclap of war should ever break, it will give you no warning; and if, by untoward chance, you should be involved in it, your fate will depend upon the preparations you have made in time of peace'.

WEDNESDAY, 25TH JANUARY.

THE Commission of Enquiry into Mr. Larpent's conduct while Registrar of the Punjab University, commence its sittings to-day, Mr. Larpent appeared and stated that he would not be represented by Counsel, but asked the Court to make the enquiry as short as possible. Mr. E. W. Parker, prosecuting on behalf of Government, replied that he would endeavour to meet Mr. Larpent's wishes on that point. There are 75 witnesses to be examined in the case, fifty for the prosecution and twenty-five for the defence'. Extraordinary disclosures have since been made.

DR. AUREL STEIN, a native of Hungary, who is said to be a distinguished Sanskrit, Persian, and Pehlvi scholar, and has been spoken highly of by Dr. Rost, and Professor Rath—has been appointed Principal of the Oriental College, Lahore, on probation till the 15th October next, on the understanding that should he give satisfaction he will, at the end of that period, be appointed to the combined posts of Principal of the Oriental College and Registrar of the Punjab University. Dr. Stein enters upon his duties on 1st February.

THE London *Times*, while justly praising the princely philanthropy of the Maharaja of Durbhunga, mentions as "two of the most extraordinary remissions of rent ever granted by any landlord in any country," the cancelling by the Maharaja of all arrears due to him throughout the principality in 1882, amounting to no less a sum than £185,253-10 0, and the further remission, in 1885, of a large proportion of the rents due to him, amounting to £53,979-12-0.

MANY are of opinion that the illness of the Crown Prince is from excessive smoking. It has been stated "that he rarely has a pipe out of his month," and no doubt his case is being hourly quoted as a warning against the evils of tobacco. As a matter of fact the Crown Prince never smokes a pipe except when he is campaigning, and then only two pipes a day have been his usual allowance. As a rule he smokes three mild cigars in a day, or a few cigarettes. Few Germans are such moderate smokers as the Crown Prince has always been.

DR. GEORGE H. Moore has communicated to the American Historic Genealogical Society the results of his investigation as to the origin of the term "Yankee" and of the song "Yankee Doodle." His conclusion is that "Yankee" is a term of reproach or derision, which was first used by the Dutch settlers to testify their dislike for their English rivals. The first public use of the term which he has discovered was in 1725, when the sale of the effects of a gentleman at Morpeth was advertised, and these included "one negro, named Yankee." The tune "Yankee Doodle," though not used in America by the Americans till after the revolutionary war, was frequently played by the bands of British forces during the war. At the surrender at Yorktown the tune was played with a view to annoy the defeated British soldiers, and afterwards it became popular throughout America as a song of triumph.

SIR MORELL Mackenzie's treatment of the Crown Prince brought him an extraordinary influx of new patients. One day he is said to have seen as many as eighty-four victims of the larynx, and on the Saturday went off to Brighton to try and get a few hours' rest. A telegram followed him early on the Sunday morning and he went back, to find forty-one patients sitting in his waiting-room. Sir Morell is much worn, and may shortly have to take an enforced rest.

THE following is extracted from the report of a speech which the Marquis of Ripon made at a luncheon given in his honour last month by the Liverpool Reform Club: 'Lord Ripon said his policy in India was to strengthen the union between England and her greatest dependency. He believed as strongly as any man that it would be the greatest misfortune to England that such a connection should be severed, but he had always held that it would not be safe for any country to rely upon force only in her

government—(applause)—either at home or abroad. He desired to see England possess strength in every portion of her Majesty's dominions, but he believed that to build upon force alone was to rest upon an uncertain and treacherous foundation. They must make it the aim of their administration to reconcile her Majesty's subjects of every class and every race to the government of England, and to make them feel that the government was directed to the promotion of their best interests and for their advancement, politically, socially, and in every other respect.'

THURSDAY, 26TH JANUARY.

A MOZUFFERPORE telegram to an Allahabad paper states :—"It appears that Mr. Edgar's visit to Mozufferpore is not wholly a pleasure trip, but is connected with Runbeer Jung's movements. The District Superintendent of Police at Durbhunga has been telegraphed for to discuss means for ascertaining news of the fugitive Nepaulese Prince."

MR. GLADSTONE in his speech at Dover, said : 'Four millions out of the five in Ireland are Home Rulers straight on end, and at the very least one-half of the Protestant population are perfectly ready to embrace Home Rule if it be the will of the Legislature. Those who remain are the old, obstinate, uncured, but still I hope not incurable, Orangemen, who have been for three generations the greatest plague of Ireland, and the source of its greatest mischiefs.'

THE MAYOR of Plymouth presided over a meeting convened for the purpose of making arrangements for celebrating, during the current year, the tercentenary of the defeat of the Spanish Armada. A large and influential committee was appointed to carry out the scheme. Some opposition was offered by Mr. Clarke, a Roman Catholic school master, who said that the elements defeated the Armada, and that the English had nothing to be proud of. He believed the demonstration would be offensive to the Spanish people.

THE *Madras Times* says : 'An incident occurred in the Lord Chief Justice's Court the other day which created a considerable amount of alarm Lord Coleridge, whilst hearing a suit, suddenly rose from his seat on the bench, and coughing violently, left the Court hurriedly. So terrified was the usher by the occurrence that he rushed through the corridors of the building, exclaiming, "Send for a doctor. The Lord Chief Justice is dying!" Some of the judges hastened to the side of their chief, who was being medically attended. His Lordship returned to his seat on the bench and proceeded with the case without offering any explanation of his enforced absence. The cause of the mischief was a lozenge which his lordship was sucking. It slipped into his throat where it lodged and nearly succeeded in choking him.'

IN the spring of 1885, the German Parliament ordered an inquiry into the wages of women in the linen industry and dressmaking of Germany, and a number of reports on the subject are summarised by the United States Consul at Barmen. They reveal in the large cities, specially in Berlin, "a really frightful misery among the poor sewing-girls, who live by themselves, and who do not even earn enough in twelve health-destroying hours to pay for the most necessary provisions and for lodging." The girl without knowledge or special abilities, without family or relations to fall back upon, unless she is more than ordinarily fortunate, will go to ruin like the majority of her companions, either through honourable suffering or through disgraceful immorality. "The father who must send his only son into bloody war does not stand in need of one-tenth of the fear which the mother must have whose daughter becomes a sewing girl in a large city. The main cause of the low wages to seamstresses is the number seeking for the work, many of them doing so merely to add to the family income, and therefore able to work more cheaply than those wholly dependent on the occupation.

IN Prussia and Wurtemberg this kind of competition appears especially ruinous The Counsellor at Dusseldorf states that the wives and daughters of shopkeepers and subordinate officials take sewing to be able to buy articles of dress which otherwise would be beyond their means. They crowd in and lower the wages of the regular seamstresses. Unless the latter have some kind of family support to fall back on they usually "end in private or public immorality and prostitution." The term "sewing miss" is one which has acquired a sinister signification in consequence. The Trade Council of Berlin says that dressmakers are even worse off than the linen seamstresses. Their wages are ground down to the lowest limits, the work, especially in cloakmaking for the foreign market, is "sweated," so that a very skilful workwoman may get 8s. or 9s. a week, an inexperienced one only 4s. or 5s., and the season only lasts for four or five months. The same body gives an estimate of the cost of board and lodgings for a seamstress, it puts it at 8s. 6d. a week, omitting every thing but bare food and a place to sleep. This does not include fire, light, clothing, soap, or other necessaries of life, so that, in fact, a seamstress's full wages barely cover half her necessities.

FRIDAY, 27TH JANUARY.

THE *Native Opinion* of Bombay says :—'The Committee of the Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik Testimonial Fund have acted very wisely in making over a sum of 6,000 Rs. to the University for the purpose of founding a Sanskrit Scholarship in the name of Rao Saheb The Fund seems to be prospering excellently, and we learn that already more than 1,0000 Rs. are subscribed in this city, and it is expected that the ultimate total will be a large one. The movement has been very popular both here and in the mofussil notwithstanding some unseemly individual opposition. The services of Mr. Mandlik are national, and the desire to recognise them is justly a very wide one. The compliment which the Vice-Chancellor paid in his Convocation speech to Mr. Mandlik is richly deserved.'

THE Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay Uuniversity thus spoke of the princely donations of Sir Dinshaw Manickji Petit in connection with Technical Education : 'When I mention the name of Sir Dinshaw Manickjee Petit, I mention the name which calls up a glow and a thrill of gratitude in the heart of every one who is interested in the welfare of our community, or who has sympathy for kindness, goodness and pity for suffering. Sir Dinshaw Petit has placed at the disposal of the Government a building, the value of which is estimated at three lakhs of rupees.

A BANGALORE paper learns from a reliable source that the Bangalore Fort, which, according to the conditions of the Rendition Treaty, remained the property of the British Government, is to be exchanged for the Residency, the property of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. The exchange will be a suitable one for both parties. Tippoo's Fort was at one time a structure valuable to its possessors, but all that has passed away into obliviion, and nothing remains but its historical importance. The Fort at present is nothing but ruined walls, old palaces and hills and holes. The Residency building cost the native Government more than six or seven lakhs of rupees, besides the furniture valued to more than one and half lakh. This exchange, we are informed, will take effect from the beginning of the official year 1888-89.

THE English papers contain reports of an interesting lecture on the future of great cities delivered by Mr. Frederick Harrison. The lecture referred more particularly to the greatest of all great cities, London, but the points he touched upon are more or less common to all aggregations of human habitations. Altogether something like 70,000 new souls arrive in London every year, nearly one-third of the annual increase being due to immigration, the English metropolis being, it would appear, a veritable city of refuse for the destitute. Mr. Harrison attributes this latter fact partly to the unprofitableness of agricultural labour and the wretched opportunities of rural life, and from these circumstances he argues the necessity of a complete re-settlement of the land question in England.

MR. HARRISON is strong in urging that cremation should take the place of burial.

AN EDITOR Murdered in Court : A Cleveland telegram to the *New York Herald* says :—'The murder of editor and lawyer Reynolds at Nankin, Ashland County, was one of the most sensational crimes ever committed in the State. The Mason brothers, prominent citizens of that community, and of good reputation, were implicated in a law suit over a note. Reynolds was counsel for the opposing side, and there had been enmity between Reynolds and the Masons for years, and one of the latter had recently sued him for libel. During the trial, while James R. Mason, the plaintiff, was on the witness stand, an altercation arose between C. D. Mason and B. M. Campbell, another one of the lawyers, in which Mason said Campbell was not a gentleman. Reynolds then broke in, saying—"we'll see who are gentlemen here." C. D. Mason exclaimed—"You——, we won't listen to anything from you." "What's that?" said Reynolds, springing to his feet. Mason sprang up also and seized a chair attempting to strike Reynolds with it, Reynolds caught the rung of the chair with his left hand, and struck Mason with his cane held in his right hand. The first blow fell on Mason's shoulder and the second on his head, cutting a gash and staggering him. At this juncture James N. Mason, who sat in the witness chair, jumped to his feat, and, drawing a revolver from his pocket, levelled it at Reynolds, and fired two shots. The first struck him in the right breast, and either of the two shots would have been fatal. Mason was with difficulty protested from being lynched.'

SATURDAY 28TH JANUARY.

THE Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University in the course of his address at the last University Convocation said :—'When I see my beloved country seated majestically in her centre of empire, yet thus diffusing the highest blessings she herself enjoys to all who will accept them in this great dependency, I feel myself filled, I confess, with a patriotic pride, which no tales of mere victory could inspire. All of you are invited to come in and realize these blessings of a peaceful and beneficent dominion, and share the pride of a common citizenship with the great men whose writings have formed the nurture of your adolescence. But more, you are called on to go forth from this institution as apostles and interpreters to your countrymen in this generation and the next of the vivifying influences by which in our day Europe has been renovated. The historical glory of a great civilization glows behind you; the rising splendour of an enlarged nationality, and of a new intellectual world is before you. You may well be stirred with noble emotion at the sight of where you are and what you have to do. Accept this as a command from Heaven, as a divine impulse to work and wait for the complete regeneration of your people, and resolve to act worthily of so high and sacred a behest.'

THE papers, says *Vanity Fair*, have been full of anecdotes about Jenny Lind; but, as usual, they contrived to miss the best of all. It is contained in a letter, written from Paris in 1847, to Douglas Jerrold, by a novelist of some repute in his day :—"I am somehow reminded of a good story I heard the other night from a man who was a witness of it, and an actor in it. At a certain German town last autumn there was a tremendous furore about Jenny Lind, who after driving the whole place mad, left it on her travels early one morning. The moment her carriage was outside the gates, a party of rampant students, who had escorted it, rushed back to the inn, demanded to be shown to her bedroom, swept like a whirlwind upstairs into the room indicated to them, tore up the sheets, and wore them in strips as decorations. An hour or two afterwards a bald old gentleman of amiable appearance, an Englishman, who was staying in the hotel, came to breakfast at the table d'hote, and was observed to be much disturbed in mind, and to show great terror whenever a student came near him. At last he said in a low voice to some people who were near him at the table, 'You are English gentlemen, I observe. Most extraordinary people, those Germans. Students, in a body, raving mad, gentlemen!' 'Oh no,' said somebody else; excitable, but very good fellows, and very sensible. 'By God, sir,' returned the old gentleman, still more disturbed, 'then there's some political meaning in it, and I'm a marked man. I went out for a little walk this morning after shaving and while I was gone—he fell into a terrible perspiration as he told it—'they burst into my bedroom, tore up my sheets, and are patrolling the town in all directions with bits of 'em in their button holes," It is needless to add that they had gone into the wrong bedroom."

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)

(SESSION 1887-8.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Tuesday*, the 31*st January*, 1888, at 7 P. M.

Subject : Magneto-electric machines and Electric Lighting.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Physics under Babu Jagadish Chunder Bose, B. Sc., on *Wednesday* the 1*st February* at 3-30 P. M.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on *Thursday*, the 2*nd February*, at 7 P. M.

Subject : Refraction of Light.

LECTURE by Dr. Rajanikanta Sen, on *Friday* the 3*rd February*, at 7 P. M.

Subject : Aluminium and its Compounds :—Manufacture of Glass, Porcelain, and Earthenware.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Saturday*, the 4*th February*, at 4 P. M.

Subject : Potassium, Sodium, Ammonium and Magnesium.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
January 28th 1888. *Honorary Secretary.*

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 1888.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION.

AT the meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council on Friday last, the Hon'ble Mr. Westland, in moving for permission to introduce a Bill providing for the levy of a 5 per cent. customs duty on petroleum, gave a clear account of the present financial position, in order to satisfy the Council that an increase of revenue is necessary upon financial grounds. He pointed out that there would be a heavy deficit this year, owing to a fall in the value of silver, the necessity of improving the frontier defences, and the large outlay on the Burma Campaign, added to a fall in the price of Opium, and a diminution in Railway receipts. Leaving out the items of Military expenditure in Burma and the North-West frontier, 'the deterioration,' he said, 'in our position which we have to face is thus made up:—Loss by Exchange Rx. 7,20,000, decrease in net Railway receipts Rx. 4,00,000, decrease in net Opium revenue Rx. 3,00,000, Total Rx. 14,20,000.'

After accounting for the present financial position by a comparison of the accounts of 1884-85 with the Budget Estimate of 1887-88, and pointing out the necessity which lies upon the Government of seeking to improve it by a considerable addition to its revenue, he went on to say that the Council were aware in what direction the Government had sought the greater part of the remedy, and that on the 19th instant the Viceroy had used the powers given him by the Legislature to raise the Salt duty from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-8 in continental India, and from 3 annas to Re. 1 in Burmah.

When the Salt Duty, in 1882, was reduced from Rs. 2-14 in Bengal and Rs. 2-8 in the rest of India to Rs. 2, Sir Evelyn Baring said:—"By reducing the Salt Duty, the general financial position will be strengthened. We hope that we shall be able to maintain the duty at Rs. 2 a maund, and we have at present no reason to suppose that we shall be unable to do so. By a return to a higher rate we should, of course, to some extent, at all events, sacrifice the main object we have in view, *viz.*, to afford some relief from taxation to the poorest classes. At the same time I should observe that if any unforseen circumstance, such as a heavy fall in the value of silver, takes place, and if, at the same time, the reduction in the Salt Duty does not result in any considerable increase in the consumption of salt, it would be open to us to return temporarily to a higher rate. This is an expedient to which the Government would have recourse with great reluctance. I alluded, however, to the possibility of its adoption, for it is clear that should an emergency arise of a nature to diminish our other sources of Revenue or to increase our Expenditure, we shall be in a better position to meet it if the Salt Duty is Rs.2 a maund than if it were levied at a higher rate." The circumstances under which Sir E. Baring said that the Government might find it necessary to increase the salt duties have, in Mr. Westland's opinion, now been realized. The value of silver has heavily fallen; the rupee was 20*d.* when Sir Evelyn Baring wrote; it is 17*d.* now. The opium revenue has failed; for it was then Rx. 98,00,000, and it has now been put at Rx. 86,00,000.

With regard to the increase of Salt-duty, we cannot help saying that some of our contemporaries have been unnecessarily, if not also unjustly, severe on His Excellency the Viceroy. Both Lord Dufferin and the Hon'ble Mr. Westland fully explained to the Council why it was that the increase of salt duty was made by a notification in the Gazette instead of by a legislative measure. The Legislature foresaw when the Indian Salt Bill was considered in Council that the very best way to increase the duty without causing danger to a number of dealers and benefiting others was to do it without previous notice to the public. In conferring this power on the Viceroy the Legislature acted upon principles which are altogether unassailable, and His Excellency in increasing the duty in the manner in which he has done it simply acted in exercise of the power given him. The increase in the Salt-duty would give about Rx. 1,725,000. But this alone would not restore the financial equilibrium. It is necessary to resort to other measures of taxation.

Speaking of another measure which the Government proposes to adopt for the increase of its revenues, *viz.*, the imposition of an import duty upon petroleum, the Hon'ble Mr. Westland said that import duties in India were matters that required delicate handling, but there was not the slightest occasion at present to take up the questions affecting such duties generally. He had only to say that the Government wanted money, and that whatever might be the case regarding other imports, petroleum was an article in respect of which most of the theoretical objections to an import duty disappear. The probable annual import might be estimated at the value of 130 lakhs of rupees, on which a five per cent. duty would give an income of Rx. 65,000. The cost of collection would, he anticipated, be very little.

The two sources of revenue to which reference was mainly made would give an enhanced income of Rx. 17,90,000; and to this might be added a further sum of Rx. 1,00,000 as a moderate estimate of the produce of other sources of revenues. With these, the financial position, supposing no further fall in exchange, and no further loss of opium revenue to take place, two contingencies upon which it would be rash to calculate, might be stated in the following way:—

Revenue.		Rx.
Ordinary and Recurrent revenues as they at present stand		7,67,50,000
New Salt Duties		17,25,000
Petroleum		65,000
Assessed Taxes and Excise in Burmah ..		1,00,000
Total Revenues ...		786,40,000
Expenditure.		**Rx.**
Ordinary and Recurrent Expenditure, being Rx. 5,50,000 short of Revenue ...		7,61,90,000
Special expenditure of which, except in the item of Military Expenditure in Burma, no reduction can be expected for two or three years—		
(1) In Upper Burmah, in excess of Revenue	17,80,000	
(2) Frontier Roads on the North-West Frontier... ..	2,00,000	
(3) Special Defences ...	7,50,000	
		27,30,000
Total charged on Revenue Account		7,89,20,000

Leaving out the special defence expenditure of Rx. 750,000, which the Secretary of State said should not involve the raising of taxation to meet it, there will be a surplus on the revenue account of Rx. 4,70,000, which is certainly not too much to estimate for, in the face of the risks of further fall in the price of opium and of silver, 'and of the fact that we are providing nothing for famine insurance, and are throwing forward Rx. 17,50,000 of financially unremunerative expenditure, namely, the present annual outlay on special defences to the Harbours and Frontiers, and on Military Railways on the North-West Frontier.'

The Hon'ble Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee gave an emphatic expression to the general satisfaction which was felt at the increase of Salt-duty to meet the heavy deficit of this year. The additional duty on salt, he said, which His Excellency had lately imposed by an executive order had given the Government of India about a million and-a-half, and it was at the same time a measure which had given very general satisfaction, as one which would not touch, in any appreciable extent, even the poorest in the land. Speaking of the necessity of adopting measures of taxation to remove the financial diffiulty, the Raja was of opinion, that in order to obtain more revenue Government should look in the direction of import duties.

There might be reason, he said, why the Government should not try to reimpose any import duty on cotton twist and yarns and cotton piece goods, which formerly gave the Government of India a very large revenue, but he should think that petroleum was rather an insignificant article of commerce to impose a duty upon. The entire total value of the article imported to this country barely came up to a million, and the Council should remember also that it was one of those articles which had found its way to the homes of the poorest people in the land. Any duty imposed upon it would, therefore, touch even the poorest classes. There are other things, such as hardware and metals, which were imported to this country to a very large extent. If he were not mistaken, metals to the value of eight millions were imported annually to this country, and about two millions worth of hardware were also imported to this country. Any duty on either of those articles would not touch the poor people.

The suggestions made by the Raja deserve careful consideration. In reply to the Raja Peary Mohun the Financial member said that he would not on any account touch upon the delicate question of re-imposing import-duties; but Mr. Westland, should have remembered that if the cotton-duties were left alone, the Government would not have much to dread from the 'Home constituencies.' A duty upon hard-ware would give a large revenue and at the same time would not raise a storm in England, any thing like what is feared if the cotton duties were touched. We hope that in considering the possible sources of revenue, next Friday, the Council would give Raja Peary Mohun's suggestions the weight which is due to them.

Referring to Raja Peary Mohun's observations regarding the increase of Salt-tax, His Excellency the Viceroy said:

I cannot help expressing my extreme satisfaction at hearing from our hon. colleague, Rajah Peary Mohun Mukerji, that the recent increase which we have made in the salt duty has met with approval. Representing so fully as he does the views of the intelligent and educated native community of India, that expression of opinion on his part is extremely valuable. Of course, it is with extreme reluctance that any one in my position can give his consent to any increase to the burdens of the people of India. Unfortunately it has now become my lot, upon two several occasions, to be compelled to add to the taxation of the country. But in exemplification of so hard a necessity, it will be sufficient to remark that since my arrival in India, owing to the depreciation in the price of silver, the annual loss to the Government by exchange has progressively increased at the rate of £1,000,000 a year. The loss by exchange in 1884-85, when I first took up the reins of Government, stood at £3,400,000; in 1885-86, it amounted to £4,400,000; in 1886-87, to £5,400,000; and now in 1887-88, to £6,200,000. But even in the presence of these growing embarrassments, I would certainly have been unwilling to agree to the increase to the salt tax had it not been, as Mr. Westland has himself explained to the Council, that a somewhat unexpected loss of revenue has declared itself during the last year under two other heads, namely, the fall in the price of opium and the fall in the railway receipts. As the Government would not have been in a position to suggest to the Council on other grounds than those of sanguine conjecture that any improvement would take place either under exchange, or either of these other heads in future years, it became obviously our duty at once to strengthen our financial position, and provide ourselves with a working surplus. By the executive measure affecting salt, which we adopted a few days ago, and by the bill which is now about to be introduced into the Council, I trust that this satisfactory result will be obtained. I am glad that my hon. colleague, Mr. Westland, has noted the circumstances under which the Government was induced to issue a *Gazette* notification raising the salt duty. In doing so, we have merely acted in accordance with the intentions of the Act of Parliament which placed us in possession of those powers which we have put in motion. To have adopted any other course would have been as improper as it would have been unwise. To have given the kind of notice which some persons seem to have desired would have disorganized trade, and would have merely benefited a certain number of individuals at the expense of the community at large. I can quite understand that my hon. colleague, Rajah Peary Mohun Mookerjee, should have felt himself—and in that respect he has merely expressed what I am sure are the feelings of his colleagues—unable at this stage of the proceedings to enter into any of those large questions of finance which my hon. friend, Mr. Westland, has brought to the notice of the Council. But I hope that he will appreciate the desire of the Government of India, in submitting to the Council so full a financial statement as that made by Mr. Westland, to profit by the experience and advice of those eminent gentlemen I see around me.'

The remarks made by His Excellency the President in explaining the circumstances under which the *Gazette* notification raising the salt duty was issued, disarm all adverse criticism. We must say also that in laying the Financial

Statement before the Council the Government of India has partly met a general demand, and full credit should certainly be given to it for gratifying so far the public wish.

THE SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

The Agricultural department of the Government of Bengal has now been in existence for three years, without having been able clearly to establish its *raison d'tre*. The usual Administration Report has been published for the second time, and the usual Government Resolution has been recorded, and Mr. Finucane has been given the Lieutenant-Governor's usual thanks for the efficient performance of his duties during the year. But as one wades through the report and the resolution, one is puzzled to ascertain the nature and extent of these onerous duties or to perceive how their "efficient performance" is likely to benefit either the Government which maintains the department or the public at whose cost it is maintained. Since the stoppage of the Cadastral survey of Mozzuffarpore by the considerate orders of the Secretary of State, the labours of the department have been, as they must be, of a purely amateur character. Just by way of keeping his hands engaged, the Director was employed during the year "on surveying with a view to settlement, the Government estates of Nulcheera and Angul, the Wards' estates of Sunkerpore and Churamon, and in making a survey and record of rights in a tract, the property of private persons, in the district of Mozufferpore, the whole area dealt with amounting to 1,845 square miles. The latter operations were of the nature of an experiment, conducted at the public expense, with a view to ascertaining how far it might be practicable and desirable to carry out similar work on a large scale, and at the cost of the locality benefited. Although the whole of the area originally selected was not measured, the object with which the task was undertaken seems to have been obtained, inasmuch as it has been shewn, so far as a conclusion can be drawn in a matter of this kind from a single instance, that the difficulties in the way of such operations are not insuperable." Generalisations of this description can be made we fancy in the closet without undertaking operations which are admittedly "of the nature of an *experiment conducted at public expense.*"

The Department, however, had other labours. Enquiries were made during the year by some of the Cirencester graduates employed under it as to the "agricultural practices of the Districts of Dacca, Mymansing and Dinajpore," The results of the enquires are such as the public had complete knowledge of without the good offices of the Department, long before indeed it came into existence. The soil in most parts of the Districts is described as "very good—in some places almost unrivalled in fertility and the facilities for profitable cultivation are very great but the cultivators as a rule are lazy and devoid, of enterprise." The agricultural resources of other tracts are described as very great, "but require capital and enterprize for their proper developmeut." But since no Government department, however highly paid its Director and officers may be, can provide the capital which alone is the condition precedent of agricultural development as judged by the departmental standard, it seems wholly useless and idle to speculate. Agricultural operations in a purely agricultural country like Bengal can hardly be undertaken for the theoretic advancement of science and we cannot expect our ryots, to whom the question is one of life and death, to listen to the speculative fads of irresponsible theorists. They will be enterprizing enough when they have enough to live upon. The Government sees this clearly and fully perceives that no practical good is likely to come of these departmental lucubrations. But it will not do to say as much in an official report and something good and kind has to be said. The Government Resolution therefore hits upon a new motive for continuing these learned researches, and says that "these investigations should be made, and their statistical results recorded in such a manner as to be of use in connection with the revision now being made of the Gazetteer of Bengal."

If however the Department cannot be serviceable in any other way, it might possibly be of some use in educating the ignorant ryot in the improved ways of his work. Western inventions might be introduced and indigenous methods of one part of the country might be made known in parts where they are not known. But learned lectures lose all their practical value when the question is reduced, as it is bound to be, to one of rupees, annas and pies. Improved manures and implements may be, and are no doubt, good in their way. But how to solve the problem of wherewithal? That was what we asked last year in reviewing the first report of the department. The question has not only not been attempted to be answered, but the Department has had to make sad and humiliating confessions to which we deem it our duty to draw public attention, because we ventured to predict the results would be just as they have turned out. The results of the enquiries made by the Department are no doubt, as the Government resolution observes, valuable rather for future comparison than for immediate application. But the present, we submit, has some claims to consideration, because the maintenance of an expensive white elephant cannot be justified on illusory and chimerical hopes about the future alone. Much was made in the last report of bone-meal manure and the Director has not spared to hit some of the vernacular newspapers hard in his report, for taking exception to its introduction. The manure is good no doubt, but can the impoverished ryot afford to pay for this costly luxury? We said no, last year, and the Department has to say ditto after a year's further experience. The magnificent quantity of a hundred maunds is all that a zealous officer has been able to dispose of in an important and populous district like Burdwan. One of the officers of the Department reports that 'he could have introduced this manure to almost any extent among the cultivators of the Burdwan Division, but for the fact that the price demanded by the Bally and other factories is somewhat higher than is paid for oilcake.'

That is just where it is, and we are glad that the Department has shed its scale and seen it after all. How can one afford to pay for bone-meal when the common cow-dung, a very effective manure by the way, cannot be used in as large a quantity as necessary, because it has to be burnt as fuel also. Guano would be a much better manure still, but the ryot can pay for neither bone meal nor guano, and it is idle to expatiate upon their merits and to keep up a costly Department for doing so. The Department is, however, inexorable and must hit upon some means of justifying its existence. A cheaper substitute for bone-meal is now talked of, and "it is now intended to make an experiment with fermented bones *to see if the price can be reduced.*" As however the one experiment is not likely to fare much better than the other, the Department wisely takes the precaution of safe-guarding itself. We are warned that 'It is unlikely that Indian ryots, generally speaking, will take the trouble to collect and ferment bones for themselves. If bone manure so treated is to take the place of bone-meal, there must be a special agency to ferment and grind bones on a large scale, and then sell them in the same way as bone-meal is now being sold.'

The Department has other theories to expound, but is sensible enough not to importunately press them upon public attention. We are therefore allowed to let go with the mild suggestion that 'under special conditions a mixture of superphosphate of lime and crude saltpetre may with great advantage be applied to paddy as a topdressing; but so long as sulphuric acid sells at its present extremely high price in India, there is not much chance of super coming into general use. The highness of the price of sulphuric acid is more to be regretted for, super has proved an excellent manure for sugarcane on strong clay land.'

It remains now to notice the success of the Department in regard to the improvement of agricultural machinery. Here again our predictions have proved correct to the very letter, and here again the Department has, we are glad to notice, come to its senses and makes a confession of failure. 486 Burrakar cast-iron ploughs, it is reported, "have been sold during the year under review, but these ploughs have not in general been very favourably reported upon. The cast-iron, it is said, soon wears away, and, moreover, has the drawback that, when once broken, it cannot, like wrought-iron, be repaired by native blacksmiths. The Shibpore wrought-iron inverting ploughs have been greatly improved, and those recently made work fairly well. It has not, however, been found possible to bring the price of this plough below Rs. 6, and its expensiveness is therefore a great impediment in the way of its general use by ryots. The fact that soil-inverting ploughs require strong bullocks to work them, and that they cannot be used at all in paddy cultivation, has led to attempts to improve the ordinary ryot's plough without converting it into a soil-inverting one." Fresh experiments are talked of, but it will be time enough to judge of their merits when their success has been established. Municipalities and public bodies in the meanwhile are recommended to introduce healthy bulls for the improvement of the breed of cattle within their jurisdiction.

By far the best instance, however, of practical work attempted by the Department seems to be the attempt to stop the spread of disease among worms known as *kata* which has caused much anxiety to those interested in the silk industry of Bengal. Mr. N. G. Mookerjee, a Cirencester scholar, has been engaged on the work; his labours are, as the Lieutenant-Governor ascertained when on tour, much appreciated by those best able to form a judgment, and seem to have met with some actual success. The Director states that—

"The native rearers have shown a preference for the seed reared and microscopically examined by Mr. Mookerjee to that reared in the ordinary way, and went so far as to incur the expense of buying, according to his advice, untainted mulberry leaf at a high price, rejecting leaf in their possession, which is believed to be tainted, by use on the land, on which it was grown, of manure containing excreta of diseased silkworms. Mr. Mookerjee now thinks that he has eradicated disease from his experimental Madrasi stock, and he is probably right; but it remains to be decided by the expert from Europe, who is soon expected, whether he has really done so. If it should prove that he has, then the question of the extension of the methods adopted by him will have to be carefully considered. Enquiries are also being made on the subject of the natural history and ravages of the silkworm fly, of which little is at present known."

If the Department is to be further allowed to exist in the face of its admitted uselessness, it is infinitely better that practical questions of this description should keep it engaged than fruitless theories and idle fads, the chances of whose leading to any tangible good are very uncertain and remote. Some very able officers are made to dissipate their energies in the department, which might well be availed of for much better purposes.

THE MUNICIPAL BILL.

The Further Preliminary Report, as it is called, of the Amended Municipal Bill for Calcutta, comprising the second chapter of the first part of the Bill, came on for consideration of the Legislative Council of Bengal on Saturday last. This being by far the most important part of the Bill, relating, as it does, to the constitution of the Corporation, notice was given by the non-official members of the Council representing the different interests of the Town and Suburbs, for moving quite a formidable number of amendments on vital points of the Bill. The notified amendments amounted to so many as 62 in number, and were divided as might be expected between the Hon'ble Mr. Irving, the Hon'ble Babu Kallynath Mitra, and the Hon'ble Dr. Gurudas Bannerjee. The amendments, as they stood on the business paper, were, in the words of His Honor the President, rather confusing, and in many instances the same amendments on the same sections were proposed by different members. His Honor

grouped these proposed amendments under different heads, the first of which related to the principle of amalgamation itself. The next group touched the question of the number of Commissioners and the proportion of nominees, and the third referred to the distribution of nominees. The Amalgamation question was reopened at Dr. Bannerjee's instance, and it would have been fatal to his amendments if the President insisted on proceeding technichally, for properly speaking they belonged to the first chapter of the Bill, which was not formally before the Council. But His Honor failed to see the justice of putting the cart before the horse, and rightly waived the point of order. It was, as His Honor justly remarked, obviously unreasonable to go on discussing the question of the constitution of the Municipality without allowing the question of amalgamation to be raised. The origin of the Bill was based on the question, and if that was lost the whole Bill went along with it.

Dr. Bannerjee was, however, too much of a lawyer not to perceive the impropriety of overriding technichal grounds. He, therefore, quietly dropped his amendments on the third section of the Bill defining the local limits of Calcutta. He based his observations on section five which provided for investing the rights, interests and properties of the Suburban Commissioners in the proposed Municipality. Dr. Banerjee was appointed to the Council to represent and protect Suburban interests, and he has done so manfully by accepting the views boldly enunciated by the British Indian Association up to the very last moment, in regard to the Amalgamation question. In the interests of the Suburbs he is opposed to the Amalgamation, and while Calcutta failed to find a spokesman in the Council, Dr. Banerjee as representing the Suburbs, denounced the iniquity of the measure in respectful, but determined, terms of protest. Hoping against hope the Hon'ble Doctor did all that could be done to upset this iniquitous measure. As might be expected he failed; and his amendment was lost but neither he nor those whose views he represented, for a moment dreamt that the issue would turn out otherwise.

Though the odds were decidedly against him, the Doctor deemed it his duty to place his objection "*for the consideration of the Council.*" And herein he said a great deal more than meets the eye. Not only had no strict official enquiry been made before the Amalgamation was determined upon, but the Council failed or neglected to consider the question calmly, properly and in all its important bearings. Even when Dr. Banerjee boldly re-opened the question there was no attempt at a debate by the official members of the Council, not an attempt to meet and answer the reasons which were adduced by him, and by the Hon'ble Dr. Sircar in support of the objections. The Hon'ble Sir Henry Harrison made a purposely feeble show as it were by way of a reply, plainly implying that it was no good trying to disturb an arrangement the Bengal Government was determined to carry out.

A reason, however, for purposely avoiding free and open discussion of the objections which were raised might probably be that they are simply unanswerable. And no sensible person cares to risk his chances of success by needlessly exposing his weak flank to the enemy's charge, when he is strong in the consciousness of having secured a crushing majority. The public, however, cannot consider the objections too often in order to convince themselves of the thorough iniquity of the measure forced upon them. Dr. Banerjee's arguments follow principally on the wake of those adduced by the British Indian Association. He pointed out that "the scheme of amalgamation would fail to secure the object for which it was intended, which was to improve the sanitary condition of Calcutta. One result of the amalgamation would be that taxation in the Suburbs, which was already heavy, would be at least doubled if not trebled; and this increase in the taxation would tell so heavily on the poorer classes that it would inevitably drive them to places beyond the proposed boundary less suited to habitation than those where they now lived, places where they would have much less municipal conservancy arrangements than they now had under the Suburban Municipality. The result of this would be that they would have crowded *bustees* springing up under less advantageous circumstances, and thus the evils sought to be remedied would spring up elsewhere, and the town would continue to be as much contaminated by noxious effluvia as it was at present. The scheme would also impair the Municipal administration of the town, as it was not likely that the higher officers of the Municipality with a larger area to look after would be able to devote the same attention to Municipal improvements as they did at present. The scheme would be attended with injustice and hardship to the area proposed to be taken, as the rate of taxation would be raised two-fold, if not three-fold. The Suburban inhabitants would naturally expect to enjoy the same advantages which the town now enjoyed; but would it be possible for the new Municipality to give them the same advantages? With every possible economy, would it be possible for an income of 34 lakhs to do more for 18 square miles, which an income of 28 had hardly been able to do for six square miles? Then, under the proposed scheme, a portion of the Municipality would be subject to the jurisdiction of the High Court, and a portion to the 24-Pergunnahs, which would result in much practical inconvenience, and an increase in the staff to conduct Municipal cases in the two courts."

The lawyer's view of the question is not the least important of all, and has never been taken at its proper value. Dr. Banerjee apprehends that new Suburbs will grow up before we have grown any wiser, and we shall ere long be much the same where we are. Medical opinion also supports this view of the question. Although he might have no other objections to the scheme, Dr. Mahendralal Sircar opposed the amalgamation on sanitary grounds. "On amalgamating," he said, "the suburbs with the town, they would be compelled to extend the underground sewers to the suburbs, and he contemplated such a contingency with horror. Already these underground sewers were having a very baneful influence on the health of the people. Fevers were assuming year by year more of a typhoidal character, and by extending the sewers they would be creating this vast area into a prolific source of disease."

As we have said before these objections were not attempted to be adequately answered. The Hon'ble Kallynath Mitra said that he was "pledged" to support the amalgamation and there, of course, the matter ends. We have often met the fallacy about the propriety of "persons living on one side of Calcutta enjoying the same advantages as those living on the other side', and about the possibility of "one body responsible for the entire area being more bound to look after every inch of it than two bodies," and we are not concerned in noticing them again. The sugar plum of the concession of the Police grant, which has been made a great deal of, is not likely to supply the joint wants of the Town and Suburbs, however much it might have benefited the Town by itself. Sir Henry Harrison may be right as to his calculation of six additional lacs being available for effecting improvements in the Suburbs. But must not these additional lacs be spent on the Suburbs at the cost of the Town, and will even they suffice? We are further unable to follow him in his assurance that "with regard to the fear that the people would be more heavily taxed, the Bill proposed specially to guard against any hardship, and to keep the tax-gatherer away from the doors of the poor." It is roundly stated that "the time had approached when amalgamation had become a necessity, and if any hardships would result, they would be far outweighed by the advantages which would be derived." But the nature of these ideal advantages has not been made clear, and we are not told when and how they will be derived. The Amalgamation had been decided on long ago, and it was only formally sealed on Saturday last. And Sir Steuart Bayley has been powerless in preventing the mischief. The keynote of the legislation is to be found in the speech of Mr. J. G. Womack, Past Master of the Trades' Association, at its annual meeting, on Friday last. This representative of the Anglo-Indian view of the question was good enough to observe :—"To my mind one of the strongest recommendations of the proposed legislation is the unanimous chorus of disapproval with which it is met by the native press." The difference is that our rulers have the grace not to *say* as much.

The only other point considered at the last meeting of the Legislative Council was Dr. Gurudas Banerjee's proposal to cut down the number of Commissioners and Wards. The proposal was rightly enough negatived, and the other items of business stood over till Saturday next.

THE NIZAM'S OFFER.

The current number of the Asiatic Quarterly Review opens with an article on the Nizam's magnificent offer of sixty lakhs of rupees towards the cost of strengthening the North-Western frontier of the Empire. The writer scouts the notion that the offer was inspired by an ulterior and selfish motive. We may admit for the sake of argument that it was dictated by a deep sense of devoted loyalty to the British Crown; but the most important question is, whether the offer should be accepted. The writer in the *Asiatic Quarterly* does not agree with those who hold that it would be impolitic to receive assistance from a feudatory for the purpose of strengthening the defences of the Empire. This point we discussed at some length in our issue of the 10th of October, and we will not repeat what we said on that occasion. To our thinking there are strong objections to the Government of India being conducted upon anything like a system of benevolences. The acceptance of this and similar tenders of assistance implies a reflection on the power and resources of the Paramount power, more particularly at a time of admitted financial difficulty and increased taxation. Orientals are keen observers in such matters. They think that the Government of India is reduced to such straits that it is obliged to accept tenders of assistance from the feudatory chiefs.

It may be remembered that in commenting upon the Nizam's offer in our issue of the 10th of October, we suggested that the Government of India, instead of accepting it, should call upon the Native States to improve their armies, so that these armed forces might be fitted to take an active part in the defence of the Empire in case of need. The writer in the *Quarterly Review*, we are glad to find, considers the question how far the armies of the Native States can be safely employed in the defence of India. He points out that the Government has to face one of two alternatives. It must either continue to allow the armies of the Native States to remain useless and expensive encrumbrances, or it must seriously commence the task of turning them to account for the benefit of the Native rulers and of India herself. The writer says: "As we cannot help being swayed by selfish reasons—and if not carried to excess they are as laudable in the State as in the individual—the further point must be considered. Are the Native armies an element of less danger to our rule in their present condition than they would be when they had received some discipline, been appointed to perform a special and assigned work, and had also been stripped of something of their present redundant dimensions? Assuming that no change is made in the character of these armies beyond what individual chiefs may accomplish in the way of Military reform after the example of the late Maharaja Scindiah and that we do not attempt to place our relations with the Indian feudatories on a closer basis, it follows that when Russia reaches that point for which we feel bound to enter the lists against her, this or something very like it will be the position. The Princes of India will give expression to their loyalty and to their desire to take part in the defence of India, and we, on our side, while expressing gratitude for the offers, will be compelled to come to the conclusion that they can be of no practical use. The Sikh States may be utilised as they have been before on the lines of communication, but no Indian commander would dream of moving any part of the army of Hyderabad, or of the great Mahratta States of Central India, into the proximity of the Russian force. The only practical outcome that would result from

the Princes' offers would be that it might encourage the Paramount Government to denude the Native States of the Anglo-Indian garrisons constantly maintained in them, in order that as large a force as possible of English troops and trained Sepoys might be sent to the front." As to the wisdom of utilizing the armed forces of the Native States there can be no doubt whatever. And the only question is as to the best way in which this important object can be accomplished. We have always maintained the view that by disciplining the troops of the Native States and making them fit for active service, we can easily secure the addition of 200,000, or, at any rate, of 150,000 soldiers to the Army of India without any cost to the British exchequer. Such a measure would have other important advantages. It would stimulate the loyalty of the feudatory chiefs and princes, and provide a congenial occupation for the class whose exclusion from anything like a suitable career is an admitted reproach to the British rule. Genuine statesmanship demands that this reproach should be removed. The Native chiefs and princes who are not allowed to improve their armies feel that they are not trusted. They remember that in the days of the Mogul Empire their ancestors commanded armies in the field and conquered provinces for the Empire. We are quite at one with the writer in the *Asiatic Quarterly* in condemning the policy of ostracising the Native States and treating the feudatory chiefs as if they were so many enemies to the British Government.

But we cannot at all support the position taken up by the writer that the Government should accept the Nizam's offer and similar tenders of assistance made by the Native chiefs for the purpose of improving their armies. We hold that the Government should, instead of receiving gifts of money from the chiefs, call upon them to effect the necessary improvements in their armed forces at their own cost. This, to our thinking, would be the wisest course to follow. The writer in the *Asiatic Quarterly* broadly hints that it would be necessary to reduce the armed forces now maintained by the feudatory chiefs. We may tell him at once and without the slightest hesitation that if Government were to require the Native princes to disband any part of their armies they will never fall in with its views and come to suspect its motives. It cannot be too carefully borne in mind that the feudatory chiefs of India maintain armies, the existence and size of which are regulated by treaty; and that the Paramount Power would not be justified in interfering with them in this matter. What is done must be done with their assent and co-operation, and those States that prefer to have no share in the defence of the Empire must not be forced to do so. The Princes must be convinced that the Government does not wish to curtail their dignity and authority or they will think that it has some sinister designs. The Princes and people of India are notoriously suspicious and look upon all new measures of Government with feelings of profound mistrust. A correspondent of the London *Times* suggested some little while ago that the best way to improve the armed forces of the Native States and make them a source of strength to the Empire would be to lend such State a small number of English officers to discipline and train its army. But at the same time the acceptance of the services of English Officers should not be made binding on the Native States. Particular care should be taken to impress upon the feudatory chiefs that there is no intention of forcing the services of Englishmen upon them, and that the only object which the Paramount Government has in view is the improvement of the armies of the Native States, so that they might be associated with the regular army in repelling foreign aggression. If the suggestions made by the correspondent of the *Times* be adopted and carefully carried out, we can assure the Government of India that the feudatory chiefs will be only too glad to participate in the defence of the Empire by improving their armies. We are strongly of opinion that, instead of receiving eleemosynary gifts from the Native Princes, the Viceroy and his advisers should solve the problem how to employ to the best advantage in the event of a great war the large armed forces which are maintained by the feudatory chiefs. That would be an act of genuine statesmanship.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

HIS Highness Sewai Madho Sing, like his illustrious predecessor in *guddi*, Sewai Ram Sing, is a zealous friend of Education, and the Maharaja's College at Jeypore is one of the first institutions of the kind. The good work done by its former Principal Babu Dina Nath Mukerjee is being vigorously continued and developed by Pundit Haridas Sastri M. A., the present Principal and Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State. The Educational Report of the State for the last year is satisfactory and in every respect shows that high education has not been advanced at the cost of primary and secondary education. The Durbar renders practical aid to the cause of education by providing those who have availed themselves of it, with suitable appointments in the State. Oriental learning had its full measure of encouragement by special arrangements for the study of Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic and by the recognition of the Oriental degrees of the Panjab University. Female Education was not neglected either, and special education was provided in all cases where it was deemed necessary. The year's good work ought to be very encouraging to those who have contributed towards the success of the Department.

THE list of High Court holidays for the year is remarkable for an unaccountable and unexplained departure from established custom. The annual Pooja vacation extends from the 10th of September to the 15th of November, but the Xmas and New Years holidays have been split up for no reason that we can conceive. The former extends from the 24th to the 26th of December only, and the twelve days' respite hitherto enjoyed by the profession and the bar has been stopped. The nine weeks' vacation might with advantage be curtailed, and the second long vacation allowed to stand. In fact we have sometimes thought that in justice to our hard-worked judicial officers the 12 days Xmas holidays ought to be extended to the Mufassil and some of the minor holidays cut down. To have appreciable rest twice a year is a distinct advantage, and the custom should not have been disturbed but for cogent reasons, which, as far as we can see, have not in the present case been attempted to be made out. One direct result of the change will be to prevent our leading Barristers, Attorneys and Vakils from attending the National Congress which has been fixed for this period of the year, the Xmas holidays being universal in India. There can be no insinuation that the authorities indirectly aimed at this result, for the better classes of our officials have entire sympathy with the objects of the institution. As however the result is inevitable and as no strong case seems to have been made out for the change, we shall be glad if the authorities will reconsider their decision and let the Xmas holidays of the High Court stand as they have always stood.

THE *Pioneer* has made Raja Sir T. Madhava Rao's refusal to sit on the Supreme Legislative Council a text for an essay that Selection is better on principle than Election. So far as Indian Councils are concerned our contemporary seeks to strengthen his position by naming Sir Maharaja Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Raja Durgachurn Law, Babu Kristodas Pal, Pundit Vishwanath Mundlik, Sir Dinshaw Maneckji Petit and others, and challenging whether any election could have given better results than these. Our contemporary is certainly right so far, but his position would be considerably weakened if he went on enumerating. We ourselves could add a few more illustrious names to those given by him. But what percentage do they constitute of the whole body of our selected legislators? If comparisions of this description were not particularly "odourous," we could have given statistics which would at once make the relative merits of Election and Selection clear as daylight. The balance-sheet would be decidedly against such stock-taking. But it is a question of principle that is involved and not whether three or four or five or six really good men have not in all been selected by Government. There is no denying that the selections have for the most part been worthless and in some cases positively worse. Self-government, moreover, has been conceded to us and we have a right to demand its extension to its legitimate issue. Fallacious inferences like those drawn by our contemporary cannot be allowed to interfere with what the people are clearly entitled to and unanimously demand.

THE fifty-eighth anniversary of the Bramho Samaj does not seem to have passed off very smoothly. At the Bramho Somaj of India there was an unseemly squabble about the right of certain ministers to preach from the *Vedi* in a certain form, in which some members of the congregation had an opportunity of displaying their pugilistic acquirements and their proficiency at single sticks. We had heard and thought that these dissensions had come to an end, but it does not seem so. At the *Sadharan Bramho Somaj* some disorderly rowdies created a row which ended in a bit of exciting street fighting. The *Adi Samaj* fared better, and there was at the Jorasanko residence of Babu Devendranath Tagore the usual large gathering and solemn service on the 11th Magh.

THE European residents of the neighbourhood of Willington Square lately petitioned Sir Henry Harrison for stopping the preaching nuisance and for the removal of the reservoir for the ablutions of the Mahamedan congregation that meets there daily. In last Thursday's meeting Sir Henry pointed out the undesirability of re-opening the first question which was settled some time ago not without a good deal of struggle. And as a concession to the Mahomedans frequenting the Square he has also decided to allow the reservoir to stand. The Municipality is quite welcome to turn the Square into a mosque, church, or temple as it likes, but for the sake of Him whom all congregations worship and whose religion they preach, we would beseech it to keep the square clean. The filthy abominations that meet the eyes and feet of a morning pedestrian and the general uncleanliness of the place are a reproach to the Municipality. The Municipality has, moreover, no business to turn a portion of the square into a private pipe-yard and to block up the approaches with stores and materials. Something might at least be done in this direction.

WE have always protested against the maintenance of the Royal Indian Engineering College at Cooper's Hill out of the revenues of this country, more especially since the scope of the College has been widened and it has been converted into an institution for the training of Engineers for the United Kingdom and the colonies. It gives us very great pleasure to find that the *Englishman* has taken up this question, which is of great importance to the Indian tax-payer. Referring to the special arrangements which have recently been made for the training of candidates for employment in the Forest Department of this country, our Hare Street contemporary says:—"The College has cost India about half-a-million sterling, and is still a tax upon this country in the amount of several thousands a year; and in return for this money it would be difficult to say what India directly gains. It will be something if the present scheme helps to remove this scandal, for it is nothing less, of saddling India with the expense of founding and maintaining a purely English College. At the same time it is in one sense a pity to connect the Forest Department with the fortunes of Cooper's Hill; it almost looks as if the arrangement were intended to bolster up the reputation of that hybrid institution." We need hardly state that we subscribe to every word in the passage we have just quoted. The establishment and maintenance of the Cooper's Hill College at the cost of India is,

indeed, nothing less than a grave public scandal, and the sooner it is removed the better it would be for the reputation of the Indian Government.

THE Bombay Chamber of Commerce in their annual report just published, complain of the comparative inaction of the Legislative Department of the Government of India. They say that not only have new Bills been few during the last year, but several measures of weight and moment have made little apparent progress. We think, we have good reason to be grateful to the Government of India for the state of things with which the Bombay Chamber find fault with it. The country suffered severely from the evils of over-legislation during Mr. Whitley Stokes' tenure of the Legal Membership, and all classes of the community loudly demanded relief. Lord Ripon and Mr. Ilbert gave the land the rest that was so greatly needed, and their successors are following their excellent example. Mr. Scoble, the present Legal Member, is thoroughly convinced of the incalculable mischief of hasty legislation. Important measures like the Bankruptcy Bill, the Inventions and Designs Bill, and the Debtors' Bill should not be hurried through the Council. The public interests imperatively demand that these measures should be subjected to careful and attentive consideration before they are proceeded with. We are glad to find that last year the Bombay Chamber did not press any further schemes of railway extension on the Government. The report under notice remarks that during a period of financial pressure a prudent Government is naturally averse to incurring heavy liabilities in the shape of additional guarantees, and that this is a position which the Chamber can appreciate. We wish the example of the Bombay Chamber had been followed by the Kurrachi Chamber and by the Associated Chambers of Commerce in Great Britain, that are agitating for the construction of Mr. Archibald Colquhoun's proposed Moulmein-Yunan Railway under the sanction of a Government guarantee.

A MEETING of subscribers to the Kristodas Memorial Fund was held at the British Indian Association Hall last Wednesday, under the presidency of Maharaja Norendra Krishna, for the purpose of determining what the form of the Memorial should be. It will be remembered that it had been originally intended that the money raised for commemorating the invaluable services rendered by Babu Kristodas to the country would be handed to the Government for the construction of an Eye Infirmary bearing the name of the deceased. But as the very small sum of Rs. 13,000 only had been so far collected, the original idea could not be carried out. Dr. Sanders, one of the Honorary Secretaries to the Fund, pertinently observed that the amount of the subscriptions did not warrant their going up to Government for the purposes of an Eye Infirmary, but they could have a bust for that sum or a statue which might be placed in the Town Hall. Babu Kunja Lal Bannerjee, in proposing the erection of a statue of our late lamented predecessor made a most feeling speech. After pointing out that the very paltry sum of Rs. 21,900 had been subscribed to the Fund, of which nearly one-third remained unrealized, Babu Kunja Lal went to say that it was a matter of the deepest regret to him that the memory of their distinguished countryman, who had done so much to advance their interests, should be so lightly esteemed, that when subscriptions were called for to perpetuate his name among them, the response should be so weak. He really felt ashamed—not to use any harsher term—of the apathy of his countrymen in coming forward to subscribe towards perpetuating the memory of the lamented deceased—a memory such as any other nation would be eternally proud of, and which they would devise a thousand means to perpetuate. He believed, however, that with a little pressure they would be able to bring up the amount to, say, Rs. 15,000, which might be devoted towards the erection of a statue. It would have been infinitely more satisfactory if the funds had enabled them to carry out their first intention of building an Eye Infirmary, as such an institution would, while preserving the memory of a great man, have done immense service to suffering humanity. It is really a great shame to educated and wealthy classes in Bengal that they could not raise sufficient funds for perpetuating the memory of Babu Kristodas Pal by building an Eye Infirmary in his name. The services rendered by our great men are forgotten as soon as they are out of sight. So long as he lived Kristodas Pal was a power in the land; he was a pillar of the State, his influence was deeply felt in all public movements. But his friends and admirers, with all their efforts, could not raise a decent sum for commemorating his invaluable services to the country in a manner which would have done incalculable good to suffering humanity! Babu Kunja Lal Banerjee's proposal for the erection of a statue was unanimously adopted, and the Honorary Secretaries were instructed to cummunicate with artists in order to ascertain its cost. A Sub-committee composed of Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore, Maharaja Narendra Krishna, Nowab Abdul Lutif Khan Bahadur, Raja Rajendralala Mitra, and the Hon'ble Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee, was appointed to collect photographs of the late Hon'ble Rai Kristodas Pal Bahadur.

POETRY had so long been tabooed from the English Course of the Entrance Examination of our University that the public had ceased to take all interest in the question. It was after a long struggle readmitted, but the selection of the pieces prescribed was generally indifferent. The Syndicate has this year selected certain pieces for the Examination of 1889 from an admirably got up compilation, called Lahiri's Select Poems, published by the well-known and enterprising firm of Messrs. S. K. Lahiri and Co. of this city. This selection revived public interest in the study of English poetry by our Entrance candidates in a peculiar manner, since this is the first 'native' publication of the kind that has been so honored. The selections are for the most part choice and varied and such as the candidate should read carefully in addition to the ten pieces prescribed by the Syndicate, if he means to be anything like well-grounded in English poetry. Their study will afford an excellent exercise and will stand them in good stead at the examination. It is necessary, however, that none but correct versions should be read. Messrs Lahiris' selections are cheaply priced enough. But it is difficult to guard against piracy by unscruplous and ignorant speculators and the result is that the market is flooded with worthless publications, some priced so low as literally *one pice* (a hundred copies being charged a modest rupee!) and abounding in blunders, typographical and otherwise—which would make the veriest tyro of a copyholder in a fifth-rate printing establishment blush. The ridiculous cheapness of these worthless reprints will ensure their making their way to the candidates, which it is needless to add will be synonymous with the insurance of their failure. In the interest of the candidates, the Syndicate ought to devise some measures for checking such unscruplous piracy, if law indeed is powerless to do so.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN GENERAL DEBILITY AND EMACIATION.—In cases of Debility and Emaciation, the powerful curative influence of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is graphically described by Sir Henry Marsh, Bart, M. D., Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Ireland, who, after extensive use, strongly recommended this preparation, and observed:—"I have frequently prescribed Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil. I consider it to be a very pure Oil, not likely to create disgust, and a therapeutic agent of great value." This eminent Physician remarks:—"With strumuous and emaciated subjects, and where the general health is impaired, this remedy tells with peculiar efficacy. The reviving and remaining effects of a regular daily course of this animal Oil are highly satisfactory. Its favourable action on the system is renovating; it checks progressive emaciation, restores the yielding health, rebuilds, as it were, the tottering frame, and brings about a most remarkable and salutary change in all the vital functions." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*25th January, 1887.*

GENERAL.—Babu Hurrish Chunder Rai is appointed to be a Special Deputy Collector for employment as Settlement Officer in the Maldwar Ward's Estate in the Districts of Dinagepore and Purneah.

Babu Gopal Chunder Mukerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4, Act VII (B C) of 1880, in that District.

Mr R F Rampini is appointed temporarily to be Additional District Judge, 24-Pergunnahs, with effect from such date as he may be relieved of his appointment as District and Sessions Judge, Burdwan.

Mr Rampini is also appointed, under section 3, Act X of 1870, to perform the functions of a Judge under that Act within the local limits of Calcutta and the District of the 24-Purgunnahs.

The undermentioned officers have been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India extensions of furlough for the periods noted opposite their names:—

Mr J F Bradbury, C S, three months; and Mr W H Grimley, C S, five months.

Mr W M Clay, C S, reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 2nd December 1887.

Mr F H B Skrine, Magistrate and Collector, is allowed leave for three days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 24th October last.

Babu Radha Sayam Singh, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed leave for six months, under section 128 of the Civil Leade Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 6th December 1887.

Mr B De, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed leave for two months, under section 77 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 19th instant.

Lieutenant J B Hogarth, Northern Bengal Volunteer Rifle Corps, is allowed leave to England for one year from the 1st instant.

Lieutenant J H Finlayson, Dacca Volunteer Rifle Corps, is allowed leave to England for six months from the 15th instant.

Mr. F. J. Monahan, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajamahal, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1876 in that District.

The undermentioned officers are vested with the powers of Collector under Act X of 1870 within their Sub-Divisions.

Mr. E F Growse, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Buxar, Shahabad, and Mr. J R Hand Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhubuan, Shahabad.

Babu Shoshi Mohun Talukdar, Sub-Deputy Collector on land registration work Chittagong, is allowed leave for twenty two days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Mr. F F Handley, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Pubna, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J G Charles, or until further orders.

Mr. F B Taylor, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of that District, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. R F Rampini, or until further orders.

Mr. J C Williamson, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code.

Babu Kedar Nath Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the sudder station of the Cuttack District, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J C Williamson, or until further orders.

Babu Sheo Nundun Lal Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Collector, Chumparun, is transferred temporarily to the sudder station of the District of Gya, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Moulvi Ikram Russul, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, on leave, is transfarred to the sudder station of the District of Manbhum.

Mr. C C Mead, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Goalundo, Furridpore, is transferred to the sudder station of the District of Bhangulpore.

Babu Dwarka Nath Bose, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Silligori, Darjiling, is transferred to the sudder station of the District of Dinagepore.

In modification of the orders, dated the 17th instant, Mr. Syed Nurul Huda, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Shahabad, is transferred temporarily to the Bhubuah Sub-Division of that District.

Mr. B G Geidt, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the sudder station of the District of Cuttak.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT—The undermentionen gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates for the Indpendent Bench at Dumraon, in the district of Shahabad, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class—Babu Raj Rajeshri Prosad Singh, Babu Jowahir Singh, Babu Sita Ram Singh, and Gouri Prosad Singh.

Advertisements.

THE COUNTESS OF DUFFERIN'S FUND.

THE Third Annual Meeting of the National Association for supplying Female Medical Aid to the Women of India will be held, by permission of the Municipality, in the Town Hall, Calcutta, at 4-30 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, the 8th February.

H. COOPER, A. D. C.

Honorary Secretary.

CALCUTTA, 22*nd January*, 1888.

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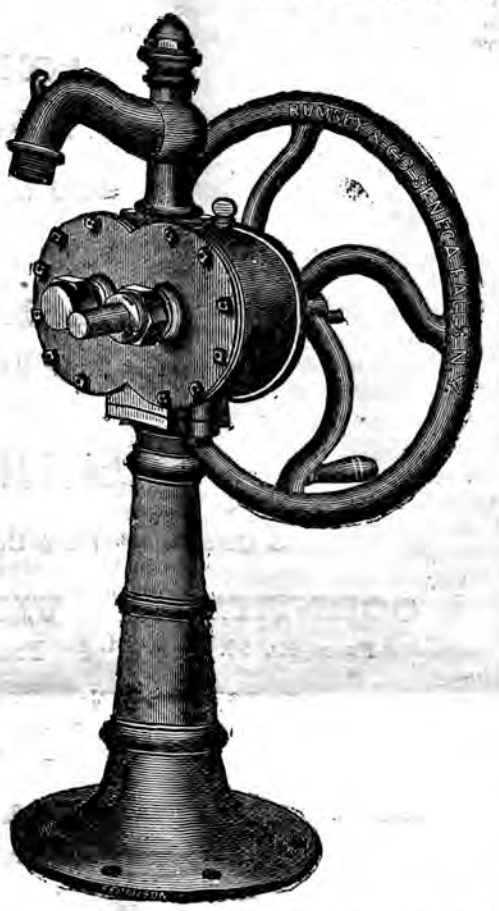

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